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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/762,567	01/23/2004	Wolfgang Wirtz	KREIS0004	3223

24203 7590 11/27/2006

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ARLINGTON, VA 22204

EXAMINER

JIMENEZ, MARC QUEMUEL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3726

DATE MAILED: 11/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/762,567	WIRTZ, WOLFGANG	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Marc Jimenez	3726	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 September 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 8 and 9 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>8-3-04, 6-28-04, 1-23-04</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election with traverse of Group I in the reply filed on 9-14-06 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that claim 1 is a linking claim and that claims 8-9 must be rejoined with allowed claims. This is not found persuasive because at this point claim 1 is not found allowable as indicated below.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. **Claims 1-7 and 10** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DE 199 40 109 A (hereinafter '109) in view of either one of Graf et al. (US6299733) or Takei et al. (US5807004).

'109 teaches in figure 1: a hollow roller core **5**, a shaft **2**, coupling elements **13** for connecting the shaft **2** with the roller core **5** so that a roller interior is formed, the coupling elements **13** are arranged so as to be inwardly offset with respect to the roller front faces **17**, air exit openings **19a** are provided in a border region of the roller core **5** outside the coupling

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elements **13**, and a channel forming element **19** for forming a junction channel **18a** between the air exit openings **19a** and the roller interior is provided.

It appears that the shaft **2** of '109 extends the length of the roller rather than having "pins" as claimed.

Graf et al. teach that rollers can have pins **10**.

Takei et al. also teach that it is known to use both long shafts or pins (see figures 1 and 3).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to have provided the invention of '109 with pins, in light of the teachings of either one of Graf et al. or Takei et al., in order to either reduce the weight of the entire roller assembly or to provide journal sections that can be independently repaired.

Regarding claim 2, the channel forming element **19** is inserted into the roller core **5**.

Regarding claim 3, the cross section of the channel labeled **18a** and **19** in figure 1 is considered "L-shaped" in cross section. Therefore, the channel forming element has a L-shaped cross section.

Regarding claim 4, the channel forming element **19** is annular.

Regarding claim 5, the coupling elements **13** have at least one opening **18**.

Regarding claim 6, in figure 2, coupling elements **25** have a connection element (see below **24** in figure 2) for connection with a source of compressed air.

Regarding claims 7 and 10, although not shown, it is clear that a sleeve is drawn up onto the roller core **5** because the whole purpose for the air passages **19a** is to allow a sleeve to be replaceable on the surface of the core. Alternatively, official notice is taken that it was well

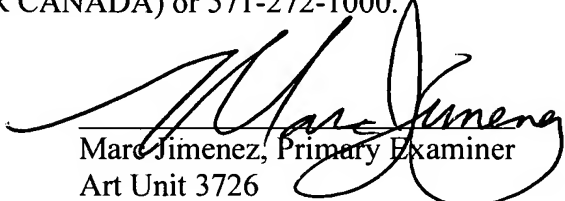
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known to a person of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to provide a sleeve on the surface of the roll, in order to provide a replaceable surface.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marc Jimenez whose telephone number is (571) 272-4530. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Bryant can be reached on (571) 272-4526. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Marc Jimenez, Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3726

MJ
11-14-06